

PROOF

STATE OF IOWA

House Journal

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2015

Produced daily by the State of Iowa during the sessions of the General Assembly.
(The official bound copy will be available after a reasonable time upon adjournment.)

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE

Fifth Calendar Day - Fifth Session Day

Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center
Rooms 313-314
Des Moines, Iowa, Friday, January 16, 2015

The House met pursuant to adjournment at 8:19 a.m., Speaker Paulsen in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Representative Landon of Polk.

Hagenow of Polk moved that upon the dissolution of the Joint Convention, the House adjourn until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, January 20, 2015.

The motion prevailed.

COMMITTEE TO NOTIFY THE SENATE

Kaufmann of Cedar moved that a committee of three be appointed to notify the Senate that the House was ready to receive it in Joint Convention.

The motion prevailed and the Speaker appointed as such committee: Kaufmann of Cedar, Chair; Sexton of Calhoun and Abdul-Samad of Polk.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO NOTIFY THE SENATE

Kaufmann of Cedar, Chair of the committee to notify the Senate that the House was ready to receive it in Joint Convention, reported that the committee had performed its duty. The report was accepted and the committee discharged.

The Sergeant-at-Arms announced the arrival of the President of the Senate, the Secretary of the Senate and the honorable body of the Senate.

The President of the Senate was escorted to the Speaker's station, the Secretary of the Senate to the Chief Clerk's desk and the members of the Senate were seated with members of the House.

JOINT CONVENTION

The Joint Convention was called to order at the Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center, Rooms 313-314 at 8:23 a.m., President Jochum presiding.

Senator Gronstal of Pottawattamie moved that the roll call be dispensed with and that the President of the Joint Convention be authorized to declare a quorum present.

The motion prevailed.

President Jochum announced a quorum present and the Joint Convention duly organized.

REPORT OF CANVASS OF VOTE

The report of the canvass of the vote was read by Carmine Boal, the Secretary of the Joint Convention, as follows:

MADAM PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN AND LADIES OF THE JOINT CONVENTION:

Your tellers, appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives to canvass the vote cast for candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor at the election held November 4, 2014 beg leave to make the following report of the total vote cast for Governor:

Terry E. Branstad	666,032
Jack Hatch.....	420,786
Jonathan R. Narcisse	10,240
Lee Deakins Hieb	20,321
Jim Hennager.....	10,582
Scattering	1,095

And the total vote cast for Lieutenant Governor at the election, held November 4, 2014:

Kim Reynolds	666,032
Monica Vernon	420,786
Michael L. Richards	10,240
Tim Watson	20,321
Mary Margaret Krieg.....	10,582
Scattering	1,095

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

Senator Janet Petersen
Teller of the Senate

Representative Dawn Pettengill
Teller of the House

Senator Charles T. Allen
Assistant Teller

Representative Zachary M. Nunn
Assistant Teller

Senator Mark Chelgren
Assistant Teller

Representative Lisa K. Heddens
Assistant Teller

CARMINE BOAL
Secretary of the Joint Convention

Senator Petersen of Polk moved that the report be adopted.

The motion prevailed and the report was adopted.

President Jochum of the Joint Convention announced that the Honorable Terry E. Branstad and the Honorable Kim Reynolds, having received the highest number of votes cast for Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Iowa, respectively, for the ensuing term, or until a successor is duly elected and qualified.

The following certificates were signed in the presence of the Joint Convention:

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION
STATE OF IOWA
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HALL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GREETING:

This is to certify that upon a canvass in Joint Convention of the two Houses of the Eighty-sixth General Assembly of the State of Iowa, of all the votes cast at the general election held November 4, 2014, for the office of Governor of the State of Iowa, it appeared that Terry E. Branstad received the highest number of all votes cast for any candidate at said election for said office and was thereupon declared duly elected to said office for the term of four years and until a successor is duly elected and qualified.

Signed in the presence of the Joint Convention this Sixteenth day of January, A.D., 2015.

Kraig Paulsen
Speaker of the House

Pam Jochum
Presiding Officer of the Joint Convention

Janet Petersen
Teller of the Senate

Dawn E. Pettengill
Teller of the House

Carmine Boal
Chief Clerk of the House and Secretary of the Joint Convention

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION
STATE OF IOWA
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HALL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GREETING:

This is to certify that upon a canvass in Joint Convention of the two Houses of the Eighty-sixth General Assembly of the State of Iowa, of all the votes cast at the general election held November 4, 2014, for the office of Lieutenant Governor of the State of Iowa, it appeared that Kim Reynolds received the highest number of all votes cast for any candidate at said election for said office and was thereupon declared duly elected to said office for the term of four years and until a successor is duly elected and qualified.

Signed in the presence of the Joint Convention this Sixteenth day of January, A.D., 2015.

Kraig Paulsen
Speaker of the House

Pam Jochum
Presiding Officer of the Joint Convention

Janet Petersen
Teller of the Senate

Dawn E. Pettengill
Teller of the House

Carmine Boal
Chief Clerk of the House and Secretary of the Joint Convention

President Jochum then directed that the abstract of votes and certificates of election be filed with the Secretary of State.

Senator Gronstal of Pottawattamie moved that a committee of six, consisting of three members from the Senate and three members from the House, be appointed to notify Governor-elect Terry E. Branstad and Lieutenant Governor-elect Kim Reynolds of the official result of the canvass of votes.

The motion prevailed and the President named as such committee Senators Allen of Jasper, Petersen of Polk and Chapman of Dallas, on

the part of the Senate and Representatives Deyoe of Story, Rizer of Linn and Smith of Marshall, on the part of the House.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

MR. PRESIDENT: As a committee appointed at the Joint Convention to notify the Honorable Terry E. Branstad and the Honorable Kim Reynolds of their election to the office of Governor and Lieutenant Governor, respectively, we beg leave to report that we have performed the duty assigned to us and that they stand ready to assume duties of the offices to which they were elected.

Respectfully submitted,

Chaz Allen	Dave Deyoe
Janet Petersen	Ken Rizer
Jake Chapman	Mark Smith

The Joint Convention stood at ease at 8:28 a.m., until the fall of the gavel.

The Joint Convention proceeded to the floor of the auditorium for the inauguration of Governor-elect Terry E. Branstad and Lieutenant Governor-elect Kim Reynolds.

State Auditor, Mary Mosiman; Attorney General, Tom Miller; Secretary of State, Paul Pate; Secretary of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Bill Northey and State Treasurer, Michael Fitzgerald were seated prior to the Joint Convention.

The Joint Convention resumed at 9:17 a.m., President Jochum presiding.

The Legislative Inaugural Committee, consisting of Senators Ragan of Cerro Gordo, Hogg of Linn, Bolkcom of Johnson, Sinclair of Wayne, Chapman of Dallas and Johnson of Osceola on the part of the Senate and Representatives Heaton of Henry, Grassley of Butler, Landon of Polk, Berry of Black Hawk, H. Miller of Webster and Ourth of Warren on the part of the House, escorted Governor-elect Branstad and Lieutenant Governor-elect Reynolds to the Joint Convention.

The Joint Convention stood at ease at 9:18 a.m.

“Battle Hymn of the Republic” and “God Bless America” were performed by Linda Juckette and the Hope Gospel Choir.

The Honorary Sergeant-at-Arms, Sergeant First Class Troy Thompson, announced the arrival of the family of Lieutenant Governor-elect Reynolds.

The family of Lieutenant Governor-elect Reynolds was escorted to their seats.

The Sergeant-at-Arms announced the arrival of the family of Governor-elect Branstad.

The family of Governor-elect Branstad was escorted to their seats.

The Sergeant-at-Arms announced the arrival of Bishop Richard Pates, Bishop of Des Moines and Chair of the Iowa Catholic Conference.

Bishop Pates was escorted to his seat.

The Sergeant-at-Arms announced the arrival of Pastor Chuck DeVos.

Pastor Chuck DeVos was escorted to his seat.

The Sergeant-at-Arms announced the arrival of the Official 2015 Inaugural Committee.

The Official 2015 Inaugural Committee was escorted to their seats.

The Sergeant-at-Arms announced the arrival of the Chief Justice of the Iowa Supreme Court, Mark S. Cady.

Chief Justice Cady was escorted to his seat.

The Sergeant-at-Arms announced the arrival of the General Assembly Inaugural Committee.

The General Assembly Inaugural Committee was escorted to their seats.

The Sergeant-at-Arms announced the arrival of Lieutenant Governor-elect Reynolds, and her husband, Kevin Reynolds.

Lieutenant Governor-elect Reynolds, and her husband, Kevin Reynolds were escorted to their seats by Brigadier General Drew Dehaes.

The Sergeant-at-Arms announced the arrival of Governor-elect Branstad and his wife, Chris Branstad.

Governor-elect Branstad and his wife, Chris Branstad were escorted to their seats by Major General Timothy Orr.

The Joint Convention resumed at 9:36 a.m., President Jochum presiding.

The colors were advanced by the Iowa National Guard.

The National Anthem was sung by the Hope Gospel Choir.

The invocation was delivered by The Most Reverend Richard E. Pates, Bishop of Des Moines and the Chair of the Iowa Catholic Conference.

The oath of office was administered to Lieutenant Governor-elect Kim Reynolds by Chief Justice Mark S. Cady, and assisted by Kevin Reynolds.

President Jochum presented Lieutenant Governor Kim Reynolds who gave the following remarks:

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR REMARKS

Governor and First Lady, Senator Grassley, Senator Ernst, Governor Christie, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Leader, Mr. Chief Justice, justices and judges, legislators, elected officials, family, friends, and fellow Iowans - welcome.

Madam President, thank you for that very nice introduction.

I am incredibly humbled and deeply appreciative to be sworn in today for a second term as your Lt. Governor.

Governor Branstad, thank you for giving me another opportunity to serve as a true partner in this administration. I appreciate your perspective that the Lt. Governor should be actively involved in developing strategy, policy, and statewide initiatives to benefit all Iowans.

During these past 4 years, I've had the chance to lead global trade missions, represent Iowa on a national level, and travel to all 99 counties each year. None of those opportunities would have been possible without your confidence, ongoing support and deep belief in my ability to serve the great people of Iowa.

You inspire and challenge me each day through your actions, your leadership, your energy and unparalleled commitment to Iowans.

Governor Branstad – from the bottom of my heart, thank you.

To my parents – Charles and Audrey – you made sure I understood the importance of honesty, integrity, and hard work. Your emphasis on faith, family, community and responsibility drives who I am today. I cannot thank you enough for your unwavering and unconditional love. And thank you for raising me in Iowa!

My life has been truly blessed by my experiences growing up in this wonderful place we call Iowa. I was educated in a strong school system, where I had the opportunity to learn, not just in the classroom – but on the basketball court and in the community.

My parents and that tight-knit community instilled in me the value of giving back and being prepared for every opportunity that might come my way. Mom and Dad – thank you for raising me in a place where those values are prized, celebrated and rewarded. To my husband, Kevin, and our daughters Nicole, Jennifer and Jessica, and their husbands, Ryan, Jason and Scot. You are and continue to be my source of strength. I'm not sure I can even begin to describe the importance of each of you in my life.

It's often been said that public service is a sacrifice. However you, as well as many others in this room today, are the individuals who make the silent sacrifices that allow us to do our jobs as public servants. You bring out the best in me as a wife and mother. I treasure the times that we're together and rely upon you when we're apart.

You are a compass for maintaining direction and balance in my role as Lt. Governor. I know that I couldn't be where I am today without your love and support throughout the years.

Kevin and I also are blessed with 6 grandchildren, and, we're excited about the arrival of our 7th in May! They keep us grounded, smiling, and busy.

I know the things that I do as a leader can have an impact on their future.

That's why, it's essential, they – as well as all children – have every chance to grow as individuals, thrive in their careers and prosper as Iowans. Because their generation will be the next stewards of Iowa.

When I think about the Iowa of the future that we're creating for their generation and generations to come, I believe we have an enormous responsibility.

We have an obligation to create and promote a strong quality of life, a robust economy and a disciplined approach to government that benefits all Iowans.

However, none of these things are guaranteed. We have a personal responsibility to act, to do the right thing and doing the right thing isn't difficult when we think about the younger generation that will inherit the results of our actions, decisions, and policies.

To be true to our heritage – both today and tomorrow. That is our timeless formula for success.

The Iowa of the future will be built upon altruism.

Iowans will do as we've always done- look beyond ourselves because of our love for our families, neighbors and this great state.

Iowans know an enduring vision is the key driver for a bold future. And, we know a bold future means a focus on doing the job at hand: meeting the challenges of today with courage and perseverance.

By taking this approach, we will create an Iowa where our children will want to stay, where those who left will long to return and newcomers will feel welcome and embrace Iowa's rich culture.

An Iowa, where families choose to put down roots, rather than look beyond our borders to fulfill their dreams.

This is the Iowa of the future.

An Iowa, where opportunities exist within all 99 counties. Where Iowans come together to drive and shape those opportunities.

I know we can continue to build this Iowa for the future. I've seen first-hand what can be accomplished when Iowans join together, putting aside political labels and forging a common vision for our great state.

When leaders of good faith on both sides of the aisle came together for the greater good, we transformed education, passed the largest tax cut in Iowa history, and reined in the state budget.

Together, we accomplished remarkable things. And, together, we can achieve so much more.

Just think – a little more than three years ago, we embarked upon a critical journey to create a statewide strategy for STEM education: Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.

And, look at what has been accomplished when business and industry, elected officials, educators, parents and, most importantly, students joined together to make Iowa a national leader in STEM.

At the heart of this initiative is the Governor's STEM Advisory Council, which I'm honored to co-chair with Mary Andringa, CEO and Board Chair of Vermeer.

We serve with 45 Council members who are passionate, hard-working, visionaries who recognize that improving Iowa's STEM foundation means a brighter future for students and our economy.

Yet, even with the success of bringing together business, industry and educational partners to harness their expertise and the synergy created by this extensive network, we must continue to aggressively use STEM as a tool for economic and human capital development, ensuring we remain competitive, innovative and growing in a knowledge-based global economy.

STEM is about expanding opportunities for all.

It's about seeing children actively engaged in learning.

And, the excitement as they discover a love for math, coding, science, building a robot, solving a challenge, or experiencing lean manufacturing on the floor of a local business and the confidence that builds as they see for themselves they can do it.

As a recognized leader in STEM, Iowa is poised to connect the education to build our state for the future and use it as a tool for so much more.

STEM is an economic development tool.

Equipping a workforce with the education needed to fill the careers of tomorrow. To help attract, retain, and expand businesses and careers in our state.

STEM is a job-training tool. Providing the necessary skills to engage in a rewarding career and a high-quality job that will support a growing family, help young Iowans pay off their student loan or put a down payment on their first home.

STEM is our human capital pipeline. Ensuring that when the next Sukup, Kemin, NewLink Genetics, Innovative Lighting, or Harrisvaccines opens their doors there will be plenty of skilled and highly qualified Iowans to hire.

STEM is a mindset with an entrepreneurial spirit. Instilling critical thinking and problem solving so we are enabling the next generation of innovators to discover new products and processes creating their own path towards prosperity.

Simply put, STEM is critical to the Iowa of the future.

Improving our state's business climate also must remain a priority so the next Genova Technologies, Pear Deck, or Zero Energy Systems, can operate in an environment where entrepreneurial risk is rewarded.

Where start-up capital can be obtained and the next million-dollar idea is not smothered by thousands of pages of misguided rules and regulations. I envision an Iowa, where the next Workiva or PUCK Custom Enterprises will be successful wherever they are located within our 99 counties, whether headquartered in a revitalized urban center or the farthest reaches of rural Iowa.

I envision an Iowa where the next tech start-up can easily connect to customers and users across our state, country and world using reliable broadband, connecting Iowa products to international markets.

The Iowa of the future is vibrant!

I see an Iowa where initiatives like Waukee CAPS, Iowa Big, and the Iowa Start-Up Accelerator expand across our state encouraging young Iowans like Kinzie Farmer, a 17-year-old entrepreneur from Cedar Rapids, to grow her dynamic event called "Success She" so that talented women can network and share their stories of triumph with one another.

And, I see an Iowa in which articulate young women like Megan Weis, a bright 7th grader in West Des Moines, who stood poised at a Monday morning press conference

demonstrating her passion for coding while sharing with her peers why STEM is important for their future.

As your Lieutenant Governor, I believe we are just getting started.

Iowa is, and will continue to be, America's role model when it comes to honest, hardworking citizens. Principled and dedicated leaders, and a genuine sense of service to others.

Iowa is, and will continue to be, a place that we can be proud to call home.

It's clear why we safeguard the best in our state and plan for the future when you consider who we are building the future for – our children and grandchildren.

So, let each of us leave today with a renewed commitment to Iowa.

An Iowa where resiliency, understanding and compassion help us overcome any obstacles

An Iowa where innovation, ingenuity and imagination drive job creation and economic vitality.

And, an Iowa where family, community, and responsibility help us meet our obligations for the next generation.

To the people of Iowa – I once again say thank you.

God bless you, and God bless the Great State of Iowa!

The musical group Living Water Evangelical Free Church, Des Moines performed.

The oath of office was administered to Governor-elect Terry E. Branstad, by Chief Justice Mark S. Cady, and assisted by Chris Branstad.

President Jochum presented Governor Terry E. Branstad, who delivered the following inaugural address:

GOVERNOR'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS

U.S. Charles Grassley, our new U.S. Senator Joni Ernst, Governor Chris Christie, Lt. Governor Reynolds, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Leader, Mr. Chief Justice, justices and judges, legislators, other elected officials, distinguished guests, family and friends: I am honored to be here, with all of you, today.

Madam President Jochum, thank you for that very nice introduction.

Lieutenant Governor Reynolds, it has been a great pleasure to serve side-by-side with you these past four years and I am thrilled our partnership will continue these next four years.

Thank you for your vision on building a more prosperous Iowa future, for your leadership on STEM education and economic development and for your remarks today. This is my sixth inauguration as your governor. It would not have been possible without the love and support of my family.

It also would not have been possible without the support of the Iowa voters.

I still marvel at a system and a state where a poor North Iowa farm boy can be elected governor. It remains a great honor and privilege to have been chosen by the people of Iowa again and again to serve as your chief executive.

Inaugurations are celebrations. Not the celebration of any one election, but the celebrations of our heritage, our history, our democracy; and of everything that is good and right and cherished about Iowa. Our Iowa way of life is prospering.

At the inaugural celebration four years ago, however, we were a state with an unsure footing, facing budget woes and economic hard times.

We knew that coming together as Iowans to work together for Iowans was critical to our success.

I joked then, as my father used to say, our eyes were bigger than our wallets. While uncertainty may have started with the state budget, it was felt by our school districts, our businesses, and Iowa families.

Instead of shrinking from the challenges our state faced, after a long first session back, we came together.

We balanced our budget and we got our fiscal house in order. Today, our rainy day funds are again full and we operate on a two-year budget with five-year projections ensuring stability and predictability for Iowa taxpayers.

With a common cause of improving opportunity for Iowa families by making it easier for Main Street businesses to create Iowa jobs, and old-fashioned persistence, we enacted the largest property tax cut in Iowa history.

We know a globally competitive education that opens doors to better skills and better training creates a world-class work force. Getting better results for Iowa students and rewarding outstanding teachers won the day and we passed a transformational education reform.

Even on the most divisive issue of the day, health care, we did what our leaders in D.C. rarely do: we found middle ground.

These compromises were not easily reached. There was hand-wringing and politics aplenty. But I know we all fiercely believed that by working together and meeting these challenges we could find greater success, greater opportunity, and greater prosperity for our people.

We were right, results speak louder than rhetoric. Incomes are rising, government is shrinking, and we have more people employed than at any time in our state's history.

Today, we gather with Iowa facing a much different set of challenges than those of four years ago. We live in a global economy with competition coming from every hemisphere.

Although we are growing as a state, we aren't growing fast enough. Iowa remains the one state in the nation that has not grown by even 50 percent since the 1900 census.

The growth of our state, in terms of population, jobs, incomes, and opportunities – these are the challenges we now face.

My message today is this: we are the architects of our future.

This state we all call home, this The Heart of The Heartland, has an opportunity to grow.

The generational challenges our state faces, the opportunities we must embrace, call for a tried and true way of doing business in Iowa: working hard, setting long term goals, and making sacrifices to build Iowa's future.

Are we willing to make these commitments for Iowa?

Simply put, our future is what we want it to be; it is what we make it.

We can either design a blueprint for growth and build Iowa for a brighter future, a more bountiful future, cementing opportunity and prosperity, or, we can squander our hard work and the foundation we have built, fall into the partisan traps and go down a path neglecting to improve our state's standing in the world and the opportunities for prosperity for Iowans.

To meet our challenge of growth as a state, we must address very familiar areas: our business climate, our skilled workforce, revitalizing our infrastructure, and spurring greater innovation and entrepreneurship within our state.

However, we must approach these areas with a perspective grounded in the 21st century, based on the strong foundation we've built together, but also acknowledging the challenges we must face together.

I have traveled to all of Iowa's 99 counties every year as Governor. While the majesty of our landscape and the spirit of our people have not changed much, Iowa truly has.

We farm differently. Our crops are going to more places around the world than ever before and being planted and harvested by equipment laden with computers and connected to the internet.

We communicate differently. Information travels faster than ever before. When I was governor before, a cell phone was the size of a briefcase. Today, we carry phones in our pockets with more computing power than we ever dreamed possible.

We work differently. Advanced manufacturing is now the leading industry in our state and Iowa is at the forefront when it comes to turning corn and soy beans into sources of renewable energy, building products and even pharmaceuticals.

Indeed, Iowa truly has changed. And we must embrace these changes and adapt to them. This is the juncture we now face as a state, and as elected officials, as we prepare to build Iowa's future.

It's true, Iowa has seen economic and income growth. We have been beneficiaries of a strong agricultural economy.

However, laying the groundwork for future economic growth in Iowa requires building on our success, harnessing new technologies that will quickly expand and flourish. Our economic development strategy must build on our agricultural success as well as position Iowa for the global, modern marketplace.

One area that the Iowa Economic Development Authority believes is poised for tremendous growth worldwide is renewable, bio-chemical production from biomass feed stocks.

Already there are more than 3,500 US jobs working in the renewable chemicals sector but that is expected to increase fivefold.

Today, Iowa is a leader in the available supply of biomass. Let's build on our advantage and position our state for growth in this burgeoning industry with a new incentive for the production of renewable chemicals from biomass feed stocks.

Let's also encourage innovation with a more effective angel investor tax credit fostering the growth of start-up companies across our state.

Building on Iowa's agricultural success with modern bio-renewable products and improving our business climate will result in growing incomes for Iowa families.

As we position Iowa for economic growth and development in the 21st century, we must also equip Iowa workers with the training and skills to fill the jobs of the future for a career in the renewable chemical sector, in advanced manufacturing, or with a start-up company.

Building the skills of our workforce so they can build the products and ideas of the 21st century does not begin after high school. It does not begin during high school. It must begin the very day our Iowa children step foot in a school for the first time.

We have already made positive steps in this direction. With Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds' and Mary Andringa's leadership on the STEM initiative, more Iowans are getting access to critical science, technology, engineering and math education.

As Lt. Governor Reynolds said, STEM is only the first step. We must continue working to position Iowa schools to generate a skilled workforce ready for global competition.

By working from day one to equip students with the skills needed in a knowledge-based economy, we will position Iowa's workforce for the jobs of tomorrow.

As Benjamin Franklin once said, "An investment in knowledge pays the best interest."

I have proposed the greatest investment in our schools in state history. We have worked together to freeze tuition for Iowa students at our Regents institutions for the

past two years, and we ought to make it three. For growth, we need a more skilled workforce and we also need more innovation and entrepreneurship in our state.

Where Iowa is lagging is creating new jobs from new companies starting here in Iowa.

Universities across this nation are full of people working on the most challenging problems and solving them with groundbreaking ideas.

Our colleges and universities are no different. Faculty and students at our colleges and universities are working on cutting edge biotechnology and medical research and coming up with new ideas for internet based businesses.

What we need to improve, is our ability to turn those extraordinary ideas into Iowa companies and Iowa jobs. Our universities can play a key role in economic growth by converting university research into industry start-ups.

Allowing these ideas to develop, grow and flourish in our state will foster growth in unforeseen areas and will build the innovative Iowa future we truly need.

Iowans know: our people and our land have always been connected. The success and bounty of one is linked to the other.

This same shared fate is true in the 21st century and it extends to economic opportunity and internet connectivity. Addressing infrastructure today means addressing broadband in addition to our roads and bridges.

I'd like to share a story with you about Michael Koenig, Stuart McCulloh and Holden Nyhus. These young men grew up on farms near Pleasantville, DeWitt and Forest City. They all walked fields as a crop scouts, marking down the location and type of weeds in a field. Sometimes they knew the type of weed and sometimes they didn't. But Michael, Stuart and Holden thought to themselves, "There has to be a better way to do this."

In May 2011, as Iowa State University students these three founded Scout Pro: A company that pairs mobile devices, a web-based application and the internet with good, old fashioned crop walking.

Their web-based application allows farmers in the field to better identify the type of weed they see and pinpoint its exact location, allowing for more efficient crop maintenance and better yields.

Our farmers, and the growth of companies like Scout Pro, rely on infrastructure for success – both roads and broadband. Addressing the infrastructure that makes both the delivery of internet faster and the roads better must be a priority as we build Iowa's future.

Looking around the room today, I know we can meet the challenges our state faces. It's what we have always done. Embracing challenges and exceeding expectations is what makes our state so great.

We have met our past challenges with perseverance and that perseverance has built character. It is that character, I believe, which gives us greater hope for our future prosperity.

As you look at the back of a one-dollar bill, you will see The Great Seal of the United States. The Seal includes an unfinished pyramid. The unfinished pyramid is just that: unfinished. Our country and our state are never finished being built, never finished improving and we are always adapting to what comes our way.

That's the funny thing about challenges and Iowans. Challenges make us work harder, dream bigger and go farther than ever before and they become opportunities for advancement.

My solemn promise to you today, is to always meet our challenges head on, earnestly and with building a more successful Iowa future as my guide.

I am ready to once again work with you to build Iowa's future. So let's build it well and let's build it together.

Thank you. God bless you and God bless the great State of Iowa.

The benediction was offered by Pastor Chuck DeVos.

On motion by Hagenow of Polk, the Joint Convention was dissolved at 10:39 a.m.

On previous motion by Hagenow of Polk to adjourn upon the dissolution of the Joint Convention, the House adjourned at 10:39 a.m., until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, January 20, 2015.